

Gastrointestinal toxicity: From the top to the bottom

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DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

I have received honoraria for speaker engagements and advisory board participation by:

Merck, Sanofi, Merck Sharp & Dohme, Sun Pharma, Angelini, AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Helsinn, Kyowa Hakko Kirin, Roche, GSK

Mucositis:
how to assess it and
how to predict the
risk



HOW TO ASSESS ORAL MUCOSITIS

The importance of relying on **patient reported outcome instruments**

PROMs	<u>VAS</u> : mouth pain, difficulty speaking, restriction of speech, difficulty and restriction eating/drinking, difficulty swallowing, changes in taste
OMQoL	<u>4-point Likert scale</u> : symptomatology of mucositis and swallowing; nutrition, social function
OMWQ-HN OMDQ	<u>Likert-type response</u> : mouth and throat pain and its impact on well-being and function
PRO-CTCAEs	<u>Libraries of PROMs</u>
FACT-G; EORTC QLQ HN35/43	Mucositis scales assessed within general construct of QoL

RISK PREDICTION

- Defining the risk profile of the patient before starting treatment is essential to promptly recognize the toxicity and to early implement a supportive care protocol
- Evaluate patient, disease and treatment related risk factors

RISK PREDICTION

Patient-related

Prediction of mucositis risk secondary to cancer therapy: a systematic review of current evidence and call to action

Factor	Mucositis type	Level of evidence
Demographic and lifestyle factors		
Female sex	OM*	++
	GI-M*	+
Age (extremities)	OM*	+
Smoking	OM*	++
Low BMI	OM*	+
Performance status	OM	+
	GI-M	+
Neutropenia < 500 mm ³	GI-M	+
	High serum creatinine	OM
Low DPD activity	OM	+
	GI-M	+
Leukopenia/lymphopenia	OM*	+
Hemoglobinemia	OM	+
Low platelets	OM	+
Renal dysfunction	OM	+
HPV diagnosis	OM*	+
IBD/high number of daily bowel movements	GI-M	+
Recent antibiotic use	OM	+
	GI-M	+
Use of tongue immobilizer	OM	+
Lack of oral care protocol	OM*	+
Oral feeding (versus tube)	OM	+






Patient-related

Prediction of mucositis risk secondary to cancer therapy: a systematic review of current evidence and call to action






Gene	Mucositis type	Level of evidence
Drug-metabolizing/efflux pathways		
MTHFR	OM	+++
	GI-M*	+++
UGT1A1	GI-M	++
DPYD	OM	+++
	GI-M	+++
TYMS	OM*	++
	GI-M	++
DPYS	OM	+
IVS1	GI-M	+
CYP2B6	OM	+
ABCC1	OM	+
Cell growth/repair pathways		
NBN	OM	+
TGFB	GI-M	+
ERCC1	GI-M	+
RAD51	GI-M	+
VEGFR2	GI-M	+
ATM2/2	GI-M	+
RPM1	OM	+
MDM2	OM	+
CCND	OM	+
XRCC1	OM*	++
	GI-M	++



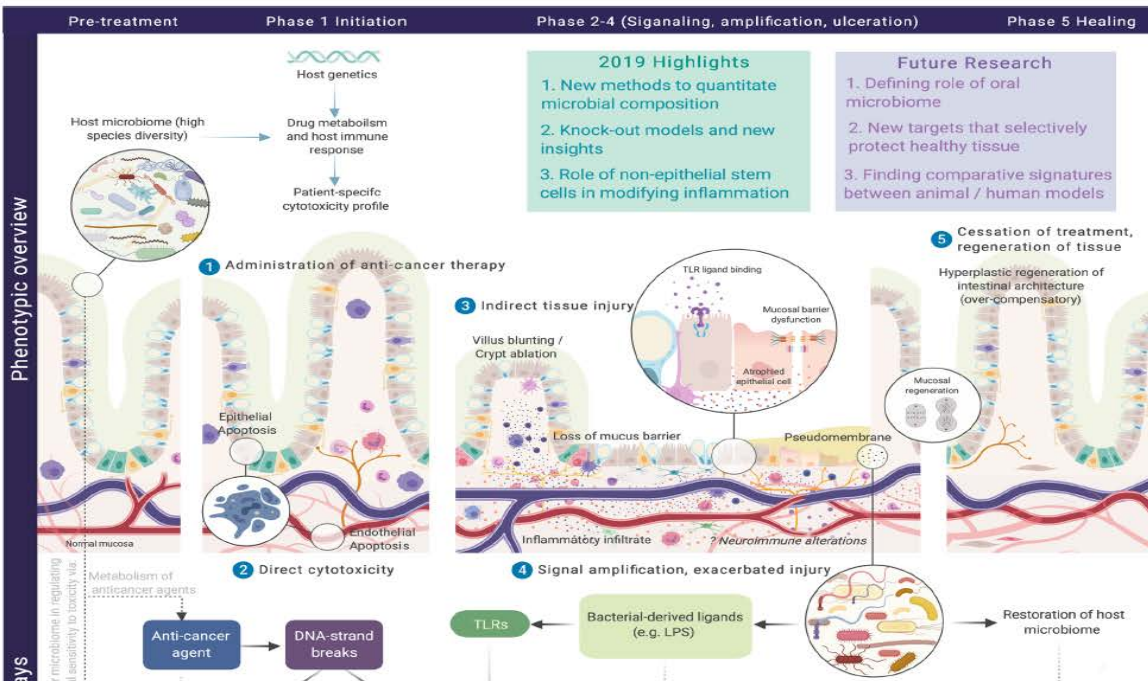
Disease-related

Factor	Mucositis type	Level of evidence
 Orally located tumor	OM	+
 Stage	OM	+
Volume	OM	+
Germinal (versus non-germinal) tumor	OM	+
Hematological (versus CNS) malignancy	OM	+
 HPV		

Treatment-related

Factor	Mucositis type	Level of evidence
 Cumulative dose	OM	++
	GI-M	+
 Irradiation volume/area	OM	+
	GI-M	+++
 Duration of therapy	OM	+
 Concurrent chemotherapy	OM	++
Conditioning therapy containing TBI, busulfan, melphalan, etoposide	OM	+
Conditioning therapy containing doxorubicin	GI-M	+
Myeloablative or fully ablative (versus non-myeloablative) conditioning	OM	++
	GI-M	+
Altered fractionated RT (versus once daily)	OM	+
3DCRT (versus IMRT)	GI-M	++
 Infusion (versus bolus)	OM/GI-M	+
Evening radiotherapy	OM	+
Morning radiotherapy	GI-M	+

FOCUS ON PATHOGENETIC MODELS




FOCUS ON PATHOGENETIC MODELS: NEWS

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Microbiome and host interaction | → | Baseline for risk stratification and modification
Dynamic changes during treatment |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Host innate immune response | → | TLR role – innate lymphoid cells |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Inflammatory-based mechanisms | → | Proinflammatory cytokines – upstream
modulators of ROS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Neuroimmune signalling | → | Enteric glia and specific neuronal cells |

Mucositis: new MASCC guidelines

Original Article

MASCC/ISOO Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Mucositis Secondary to Cancer Therapy

Sharon Elad, DMD, MSc¹; Karis Kin Fong Cheng, RN, PhD²; Rajesh V. Lalla, DDS, PhD³; Noam Yarom, DMD⁴; Catherine Hong, BDS, MS⁵; Richard M. Logan, BDS, MDS, PhD⁶; Joanne Bowen, PhD⁷; Rachel Gibson, PhD⁸; Deborah P. Saunders, DDS⁹; Yehuda Zadik, DMD, MHA ¹⁰; Anura Ariyawardana, BDS, MS¹¹;

Maria Elvira Correa, DDS, PhD¹²; Vinisha Ranna, DDS¹³; and Paolo Bossi, MD¹⁴, for the Mucositis Guidelines Leadership Group of the Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer and International Society of Oral Oncology (MASCC/ISOO)



Cancer, 2020

Basic Oral Care (BOC)

Intervention: Professional oral care

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
1	III	NGP / Expert opinion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Dental evaluation and treatment as indicated prior to cancer therapy is desirable to reduce the patient's risk for local and systemic infections from odontogenic sources.

Basic Oral Care (BOC)

Intervention: Multi-agent combination oral care protocols

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
2	III	Suggestion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The panel suggests that implementation of <u>multi-agent combination oral care protocols</u> is beneficial for the prevention of OM during CT – H&N RT - HSCT

Basic Oral Care (BOC)

Intervention: Patient Education

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
5	III	NGP / Expert opinion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The panel is of the opinion that educating patients about the benefits of BOC strategies is still appropriate as this may improve patient's self-management and adherence to the recommended oral care protocol during cancer treatment.

Basic Oral Care (BOC)

Intervention: Bland Mouth Rinses

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
6	III	NGP / Expert opinion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Despite the limited data available for both saline and sodium bicarbonate, the panel recognizes that these rinses are inert bland rinses that increase oral clearance which may be helpful for maintaining oral hygiene and improving patient comfort.

Basic Oral Care (BOC)

Intervention: Chlorhexidine

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
7	III	Suggestion against	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The panel suggests that CHX not be used in the prevention of OM in patients undergoing H&N RT.

Anti-inflammatory

Intervention: Benzydamine

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
8	I	Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Benzydamine</u> mouthwash is recommended for the prevention of OM in patients with H&N cancer receiving a moderate dose RT (<50 Gy).
9	II	Suggestion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Benzydamine</u> mouthwash is suggested for the prevention of OM in patients with H&N cancer receiving RT and CT.

PBM (Laser/light) therapy

LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
10 I	Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The panel recommends the use of intra-oral PBM therapy using low level laser therapy for the prevention of OM in adult patients receiving HSCT conditioned with high-dose CT, with or without total body irradiation using one of the selected protocols in Table 1

Protocol	Wavelength (nm)	Power density (irradiance; mW/cm ²)	Time per spot (sec)	Energy density (fluence; J/cm ²)	Spot size (cm ²)	Number of sites	Distance from the tissue	Frequency	Duration
#1	632.8	31.25	40	1.0	0.8	18	<1 cm	Daily	From day after cessation of conditioning for 5 days
#2	650	1000 *	2	2.0	0.04	54-70	In contact	Daily	From 1 st day of conditioning till day + 2 post-HSCT (for 7-13 days)

PBM (Laser/light) therapy

LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
12 I	Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The panel recommends the use of intra-oral PBM therapy using low level laser therapy for the prevention of OM in adult patients receiving RT and CT for H&N cancer. Safety considerations unique to patients with oral cancer should be considered.

Protocol	Wave-length (nm)	Power density (irradiance; mW/cm ²)	Time per spot (sec)	Energy density (fluence; J/cm ²)	Spot size (cm ²)	Number of sites	Distance from the tissue	Frequency	Duration
#1	660	417 *	10	4.2	0.24	72	In contact	5 days / wk	Entire RT course
#2	660	625 *	10	6.2	0.04	69	In contact	3 days / wk (alternate days)	Entire RT course

Analgesics

Intervention: Morphine

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
21	III	Suggestion	<u>Topical morphine</u> 0.2% mouthwash is suggested for the treatment of OM-associated pain in H&N cancer patients treated with RT-CT .

Cryotherapy

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
22	II	Recommendation	The panel recommends using oral <u>cryotherapy</u> to prevent oral mucositis in patients undergoing autologous HSCT when the conditioning includes high-dose melphalan .

Cryotherapy

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
23	II	Recommendation	The panel recommends that patients receiving bolus 5-FU chemotherapy undergo 30 minutes of oral <u>cryotherapy</u> to prevent oral mucositis.

Natural remedies & Misc.

Intervention: Honey

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
26	II	Suggestion	<u>Honey</u> is suggested for the prevention of OM in H&N cancer patients treated with either RT or RT-CT .

Growth Factors & Cytokines

Intervention: **KGF-1**

	LoE	Guideline category	Guideline
24	I	Recommendation	The use of <u>KGF-1 intravenously</u> is recommended for prevention of OM in patients with hematological cancer undergoing autologous HSCT with a conditioning regimen that includes high dose chemotherapy and TBI .

Immuno-related diarrhea: guidelines and new data



CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Diarrhoea in adult cancer patients: ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines[†]

P. Bossi¹, A. Antonuzzo², N. I. Cherny³, G. Rosengarten³, S. Pernet⁴, F. Trippa⁵, U. Schuler⁶, A. Snegovoy², K. Jordan⁸ & C. I. Ripamonti⁷, on behalf of the ESMO Guidelines Committee[†]

Annals of Oncology 29 (Supplement 4): i126-i142, 2018
doi:10.1093/annonc/mdy143
Published online 21 June 2018

CLINICAL PRACTICE
GUIDELINES

Management of toxicities from immunotherapy

ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up

J. Haanen, F. Carbonnel, C. Robert, K. Kerr, S. Peters, J. Larkin and K. Jordan,
on behalf of the ESMO Guidelines Committee

[†]For details of author affiliations, correspondence and versions, please see the full version at esmo.org/Guidelines/Supportive-and-Palliative-Care



ICI-induced diarrhea

- PD1/PDL1 → all grade 5-22%, grade 3-4: 1-3%
 - CTLA-4 inhibitors → all grade 23-41%, grade 3-4: 3-10%
 - Combinations → all grade 16-45%, grade 3-4: 2-10%
-
- It is a relatively early event
 - Lesions predominate in descending colon and are characterized by erythema, edema, erosion, ulceration, bleeding

ICI-induced diarrhea

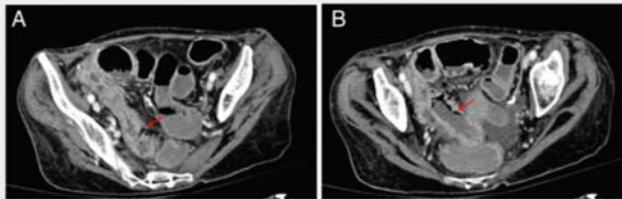


Figure 1 CT axial image during venous phase. Figure A shows a marked wall thickness (arrow) at the level of pre terminal ileum. Figure B shows a thicker wall of the ileum, with the presence of air (arrow), which is a typical sign of *pneumatosis intestinalis*, the lumen is enlarged. These finding suggest the presence of necrosis of the ileum wall.



Figure 2 The picture show the last tract of ileum resected; as seen in this image the small bowel appearing necrotic and perforated in several points for at least 40 cm of length.

Immune related gastrointestinal toxicities

ICPI-related toxicity: Management of diarrhoea and colitis

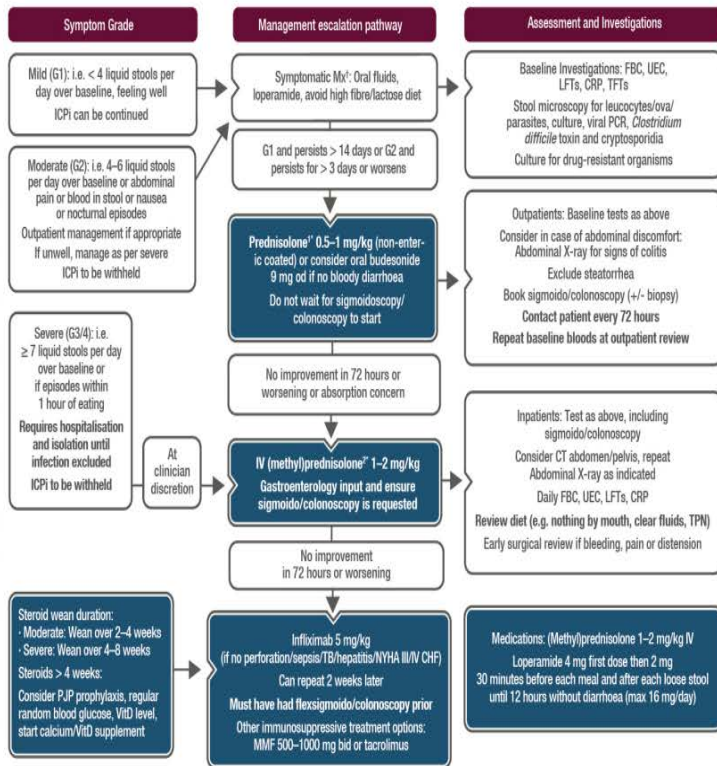
¹Loperamide 4 mg first dose then 2 mg 30 minutes before each meal and after each loose stool until 12 hours without diarrhoea (max 16 mg/day)

Steroid wean duration:

¹Moderate: wean over 2–4 weeks

²Severe: wean over 4–8 weeks

³Steroids > 4 weeks: Consider PJP prophylaxis, regular random blood glucose, VitD level, start calcium/VitD supplement



Immunosuppressive toxicity

Diarrhoea

Immune related gastrointestinal toxicities

Immune related toxicity: Management of diarrhoea and colitis

• Moderate to severe: 4 mg first dose then 2 mg
• 2-3 times a day before each meal and after each
• 100 mg until 12 hours without diarrhoea
(or 100 mg/day)

• Steroid wean duration:

- Moderate: Wean over 2-4 weeks

- Severe: Wean over 4-8 weeks

• **ICPIs to be withheld:** Consider PJP prophylaxis,

• **ICPIs to be withheld:** Consider PJP prophylaxis, VID level, start

• **ICPIs to be withheld:** Consider PJP prophylaxis,

• **Mild (G1):** 1-3
episodes per
day over baseline
ICPI can be withheld

• **Moderate (G2):** i.e. 4-6 liquid
per day over baseline or also
pain or blood in stool or no
or nocturnal episodes
Outpatient management if app
If unwell, manage as per a
ICPI to be withheld

• **Severe (G3/4):** i.e.
≥ 7 liquid stools per day
over baseline or
if episodes within
1 hour of eating
Requires hospitalisation
and isolation until
infection excluded
ICPI to be withheld

• **Steroid wean duration:**
- Moderate: Wean over 2-4
- Severe: Wean over 4-8
• **ICPIs to be withheld:**
Steroids > 4 weeks
Consider PJP prophylaxis
Consider PJP prophylaxis
Consider PJP prophylaxis

Assessment and Investigations

Baseline Investigations: FBC, UEC,
LFTs, CRP, TFTs

**Stool microscopy for leucocytes/ova/
parasites, culture, viral PCR, *Clostridium
difficile* toxin and cryptosporidia**

Culture for drug-resistant organisms

Outpatients: Baseline tests as above

Consider in case of abdominal discomfort:
Abdominal X-ray for signs of colitis

Exclude steatorrhea

Book sigmoido/colonoscopy (+/- biopsy)

Contact patient every 72 hours

Repeat baseline bloods at outpatient review

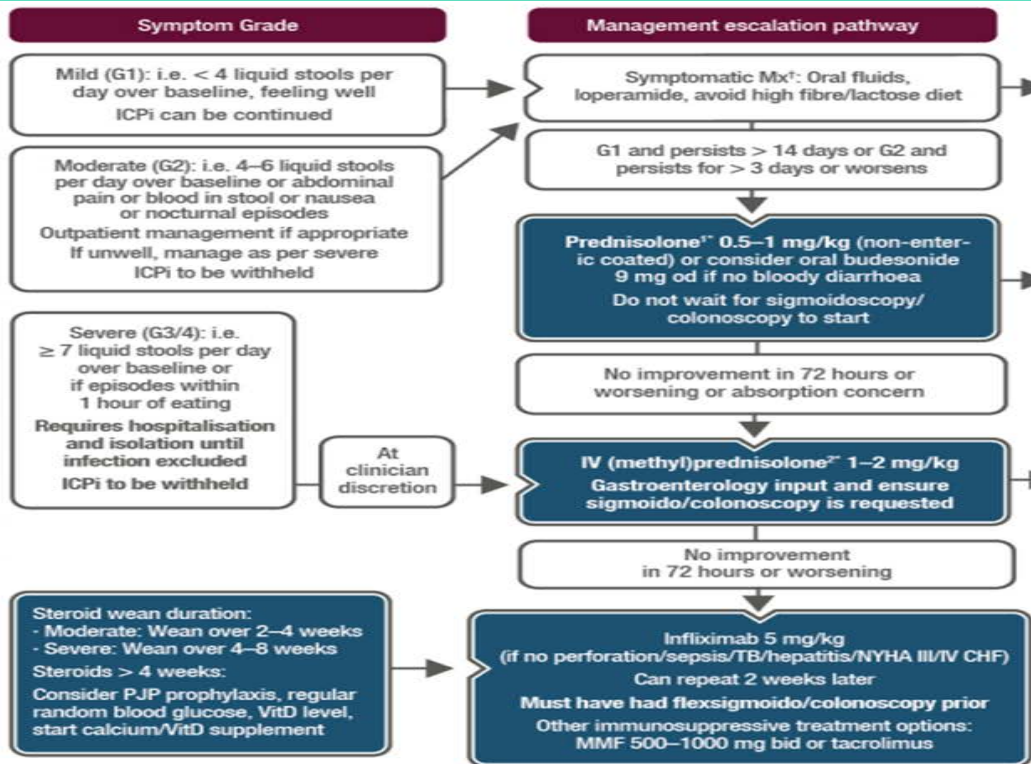
Inpatients: Test as above, including
sigmoido/colonoscopy

**Consider CT abdomen/pelvis, repeat
Abdominal X-ray as indicated**

Daily FBC, UEC, LFTs, CRP

Review diet (e.g. nothing by mouth, clear fluids, TPN)

Early surgical review if bleeding, pain or distension





Open questions

Is it safe starting immunotherapy in pts with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)?



- Patients with IBD experienced more high-grade diarrhea and colitis, more frequent requirements for add-on immunosuppressants, a higher risk of colonic perforation, and recurrent symptoms
- Balance cost/benefit, provided that the autoimmune disease is well controlled without high doses of immunosuppressants

Kehl KL, et al. Cancer Immunol Immunother, 2019
Kennedy LC et al. J Natl Compr Canc Netw, 2019
Abu-Sbeih H, et al. J Clin Oncol, 2020



Open questions

Is it safe re-starting immunotherapy after an episode of immune-related diarrhea or colitis?



- Yes, if grade 1 and controlled. No if grade 4.
- Grade 2-3: if on CTLA-4 Inh, possible shift to PD-1/PD-L1 Inh
Consider: endoscopic features, PS, burden of disease, response to steroids, duration of irAE, immunotherapy benefit.



Open questions

Is it useful an earlier introduction of selective immunosuppressive therapy- SIT (infliximab, vedolizumab)?



- No definitive response, trials ongoing.
- Retrospective analysis showed a benefit of early introduction of SIT in less hospitalizations, better symptom management and steroid tapering